CSIR as a deemed university

1209. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research is proposed to be made a deemed university; and

(b) how far this would help to enhance their research work, its quality and association with the private sector in research work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposed deemed university status to CSIR would give impetus to produce specialized scientific human resource in selected frontier and trans-disciplinary areas. The trained manpower is expected to further enhance the quality of research work and help to increase association with CSIR stakeholders including private sector.

New map policy

1210. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have announced a new map policy to boost the Geographical Information System (GIS) based industry as well as help to create a range of databases, which could be used in better planning and implementation of development projects;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether these maps would be freely made available to the general public as it would help both the public and private sector for development works; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Union Cabinet has approved the New Map Policy in its meeting held on 19th May, 2005 which provides for two series of maps namely (i) Defence Series Maps (DSMs) on Everest/WGS-84 Datum and Polyconic/UTM Projection, for exclusive use by the Defence Forces, and (ii) Open Series Maps (OSMs) on WGS-84 Datum and UTM Projection in analogue and Digital form, to be used by the general public.